

CHAPTER 6 PARKING ORDINANCES

ARTICLE I - GENERAL

Section 601 - Unlawful Standing of Vehicle

At any time it shall be unlawful to permit any vehicle to stand in any of the following places, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the direction of a police officer or traffic control device.

601.1 - In any intersection.

601.2 - In a crosswalk, or at a curbing which has been painted yellow.

601.3 - Upon a bridge.

601.4 - Within thirty feet of a traffic signal, flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway.

601.5 - Within twenty feet of any intersection or crosswalk.

601.6 - At any place where the standing of a vehicle will reduce the usable width of the roadway for moving traffic to less than eighteen feet. On a roadway with a tarred surface shall be considered the usable width for the purpose of this, section.

601.7 - Within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant.

601.8 - At any place where the vehicle would, block the use of a driveway owned by someone other than the owner or operator of the vehicle.

601.9 - Within fifty feet of the nearest rail or a railroad grade crossing.

601.10 - Within twenty feet of the driveway entrance of any fire department station or ambulance station and on the side of the street opposite the entrance to any such fire department or ambulance stations within seventy five feet of such entrance when properly, sign posted.

601.11 - On any sidewalk.

601.12 - At any place where official signs prohibit parking.

601.13 - Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when such stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic.

601.14 - On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street.

Section 602 - Parking as per Schedule I

When signs are erected giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle at any time upon any of the streets or parts of streets designated and described in Schedule I, and any amendments thereto, attached to and made a part of this ordinance.

Section 603 - Parking as per Schedule II

When signs are erected giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle upon any of the streets or parts of streets designated in Schedule II attached hereto and made a part of this ordinance for a longer period than so specified in said Schedule.

Section 604 - Left Side Parking to Curb

No vehicle shall be parked with the left side of such vehicle next to the curb or shoulder of a way, and it shall be unlawful to stand or park any vehicle in a street other than parallel with the curb and with the two right wheels of the vehicle within twelve inches of the regularly established curb line, except that upon those streets that have been marked for angle parking, vehicles shall be parked at the angle to the curb indicated by such marks.

Section 605 - Parking for Display

It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle upon any street for the purpose of displaying it for sale, or to park any vehicle upon any business street from which vehicle merchandise or goods are peddled.

Section 606 - Excess Time Limit for Parking

It shall be unlawful for the operator of a vehicle to stand a passenger vehicle for a period of time longer than is necessary for the loading or unloading of passengers, not to exceed three minutes, and for the operator to stand any freight carrying vehicle for a period of time longer than is necessary to load, unload and deliver materials, not to exceed thirty minutes in any place designated by the municipal officers as a loading zone and marked as such, or in any of the following designated places:

606.1 - At any place not to exceed seventy-five feet along the curb before the entrance to a public building between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. except on Sunday and public holidays.

Section 607 - Emergency Parking

No person shall park any vehicle on any street for a period of time longer than thirty minutes between the hours of 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. of any day, except physicians or other persons on emergency calls.

Section 608 - Sunday and Holiday Parking

Except on Sundays or holidays, it shall be unlawful to park any vehicle for a longer consecutive period of time than that designated between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. in any area designated as a limited parking area and so marked.

Section 609 - Evidence of Unlawful Parking

The fact that a vehicle is unlawfully parked shall be facie evidence of the unlawful parking of such vehicle by the person in whose name such vehicle is registered.

Section 610 - Winter Parking

No vehicle shall be parked within the maintained limits of any street or sidewalk between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 6 a.m. during the months of December, January, February and March, and no vehicle shall be parked at any other time on any public street or way so as to interfere with or hinder the removal of snow from said street or way by the town, plowing, loading or hauling. The Chief of Police may cause any vehicle parked on any street or way so as to interfere with or hinder the removal of snow by the town by plowing, loading or hauling to be removed from the street and placed in a suitable parking space off the street at the expense of the person to whom said vehicle is registered without the town being liable for any damage that may be caused by such removal.

610.1 - Winter Parking-Municipal Lots

No type of vehicle, trailer box or flatbed shall be allowed to park between midnight and 6:00 a.m., and not after 8:00 p.m. during winter storms, in the Municipal parking lots with the exception of the area marked and designated "Municipal Overnight Parking" from November 15 to April 1. The Police Department shall have the right to have any vehicle in violation towed at the owner's expense.

Section 611 - Stopping in Public Street

Unless in an emergency or to allow another vehicle or pedestrian to cross its way, no vehicle shall stop in any public street except close to the curb.

Section 612 - Obstruction of Street or Crossing

No vehicle shall stop in such a way as to obstruct any street or crossing for the purpose of taking on a passenger or for loading or unloading freight, for a period of more than ten minutes at any one time, or for any purpose except in case of an accident, or when directed to do so by a police officer.

Section 613 – Public Landing Parking

All parking of commercially licensed individuals of the marine industry carrying out said trade at the public landing shall be limited to the upper hillside parking only (and/or as posted). All residential uses being that area of the public landing parking apron as per posted signs.

Section 614 - Business District Parking

When signs are erected giving notice thereof between Green and Gilcrest Streets no person shall park a vehicle on Main Street for longer than 2 hours between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. except on Sundays and public holidays.

Section 615 - Business District Parking - Busses

The driver of a bus shall not stand or park upon any street in any business district at any place other than at a bus stop, except that this provision shall not prevent the driver from temporarily stopping in accordance with other stopping or parking regulations at any place for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading passengers. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle other than a bus in a bus stop when any such stop has been officially designated and appropriately signed, except that the driver of a passenger vehicle may temporarily stop therein for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading and unloading passengers when such stopping does not interfere with any bus waiting to enter or about such zone.

Section 616 - Parking Stand Conformity

Where parking stands are marked, no person shall park a vehicle except in conformity therewith.

Section 617 - Business District Delivery Prohibited

From 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on any day except Sundays and public holidays, trucks and delivery vehicles are prohibited from loading or unloading freight, goods and merchandise at all places, stores and buildings upon Main Street between Green and Gilcrest Streets where it is possible to perform such work at the rear of the building.

Section 618 - Parking Obstruction

No person shall stop, stand, park or leave his vehicle on any street in such manner or on such conditions so as to obstruct the free passage of other vehicles in either direction unless specifically permitted by a police officer, or so as to leave available less than ten (10) feet of the width of the roadway for free movement of vehicular traffic.

Section 619 - Penalty

Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to the general penalty imposed for violation of this ordinance; however, such person may elect, in lieu of such penalty, to pay the sum of \$5.00 for each violation of any one section of this ordinance. Such payment shall in no event be construed as an enforced imposition of a fine or penalty, but on the other hand shall be construed to be an amount which an offender may voluntarily contribute toward the cost and expense of furnishing to the public a less expensive alternative method of regulating and administering traffic law violations. Any violators making such payment shall be given a receipt for every such payment and a copy of such receipt shall be delivered forthwith to the Town Treasurer. If, however, such payment is not made at the Town Office within 48 hours after notice of such violation is served, by traffic ticket or otherwise, this alternative method is not available or applicable, and the penalty provided by this ordinance shall be imposed.

Section 620 - Removal of Vehicle

The police department, and all members thereof assigned to traffic duty are hereby authorized to remove and tow away, or have removed and towed away by commercial towing service, any car or other parked vehicle illegally parked in any place where such parked vehicle creates or constitutes a traffic hazard, blocks the use of a fire hydrant, or obstructs or may obstruct the movement of any emergency vehicle. Such removal or towing away of said vehicle shall be at the expense of the person in whose name the vehicle is registered and the town and the police department and all members thereof shall not be liable for any damage that may be caused by such removal.

Section 621 - Abandonment

621.1 - When a motor vehicle or other vehicle is abandoned on a way in the town 24 hours or more, its removal by a towing service may be authorized by order of the Chief of Police of the town.

621.2 - When an abandoned, unattended, wrecked, burned or partially dismantled motor vehicle is creating a traffic hazard because of its position in relation to the way or its physical appearance is causing the impeding of traffic, its immediate removal from the highway by a towing service may be authorized by order of the police department of the town.

Section 622 - Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter, the definitions enumerated in Title 29 of the Maine Revised Statutes, Section I, are incorporated herein and made a part hereof to the extent applicable.

Section 623 - Separability

Each section and each provision or requirement of any section of this Chapter shall be considered separable, and the invalidity of any portion of any ordinance shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other portion.

Section 624 - Consistency

All ordinances heretofore adopted by the town which are inconsistent with the provisions of the ordinances hereby adopted, are hereby repealed.

Section 625 - Incorporated with Others

This Chapter is hereby incorporated in and made a part of Chapter III, Article I of the Original Ordinances with Amendments and Additions Town of Thomaston, Maine, November 15, 1963 and any person who violates any ordinance of this Chapter shall be subject to the general penalty provided therein.

SCHEDULE I

West side of Fish Street from Main Street (U.S. Route 1 to Pine Street);
East side of Fish Street from Main Street (U.S. Route 1 to utility Pole #234);
Both sides of Beechwood Street within 100 feet from intersection with Main Street;
North side of Hyler Street from Knox Street to Green Street;
North side of Water Street from Green Street in a Westerly direction a distance of 400 feet;
Both sides of Main Street that is adjacent to Grammar School property;
South side of Main Street from Pine Street in a Westerly direction a distance of 150 feet;
In front of launch ramp at Public Landing;
South side of Gleason Street from Roxbury Street in a Westerly direction a distance of 300 feet;
North side of Elliot Street from Knox Street in a Westerly direction a distance of 200 feet;
North side of Main Street from Pole #11/7 in an Easterly direction a distance of 325 feet.

SCHEDULE II

Limited Parking - 2 Hours

Both sides of Main Street between Green Street and Gilchrest Street, except that portion of Main Street adjacent to the property owned or leased by the United States Post Office whereat parking is limited to 15 minutes.
Westerly side of Knox Street from Main Street to Utility Pole #CMP 3.